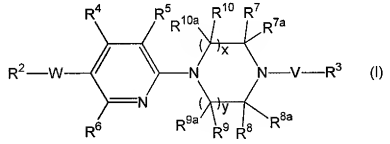
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting human stearoyl-CoA desaturase (hSCD) activity comprising contacting a source of hSCD with a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1;

W is ~~-O-, -N(R^1)-, -C(R^1)$_2$-, -C(O)-, -OC(O)-, -S(O)$_t$- (where t is 0, 1 or 2), -N(R^1)S(O)$_t$- (where t is 1 or 2), -S(O)$_2$N(R^1)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(S)N(R^1)-, -OS(O)$_2$N(R^1)-, -OC(O)N(R^1)-, -OC(S)N(R^1)-, -N(R^1)C(O)N(R^1)- or -N(R^1)C(S)N(R^1)-~~;

V is -C(O)-, ~~-C(S)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(O)O-, -C(S)O-, -S(O)$_t$- (where t is 1 or 2), -S(O)$_t$N(R^1)- (where t is 1 or 2) or -C(R^{11})H~~;

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C$_1$-C$_{12}$alkyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$hydroxyalkyl, C$_4$-C$_{12}$cycloalkylalkyl and C$_7$-C$_{19}$aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C$_1$-C$_{12}$alkyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$alkenyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$hydroxyalkyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$hydroxyalkenyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$alkoxyalkyl, C$_3$-C$_{12}$cycloalkyl, C$_4$-C$_{12}$cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C$_7$-C$_{19}$aralkyl, C$_3$-C$_{12}$heterocyclyl, C$_3$-C$_{12}$heterocyclylalkyl, C$_1$-C$_{12}$heteroaryl, and C$_3$-C$_{12}$heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is phenyl or naphthalene ~~selected from the group consisting of C$_1$-C$_{12}$alkyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$alkenyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$hydroxyalkyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$hydroxyalkenyl, C$_2$-C$_{12}$alkoxyalkyl, C$_3$-C$_{12}$cycloalkyl, C$_4$-C$_{12}$cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C$_7$-C$_{19}$aralkyl, C$_3$-C$_{12}$heterocyclyl, C$_3$-C$_{12}$heterocyclylalkyl, C$_1$-C$_{12}$heteroaryl and C$_3$-C$_{12}$heteroarylalkyl~~;

~~or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;~~

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

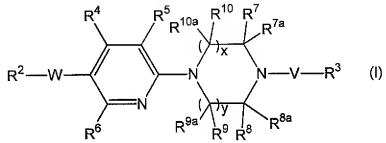
R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~ and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1;

W is ~~-O-, -N(R^1)-, -C(R^1)$_2$-, -C(O)-, -OC(O)-, -S(O)$_t$- (where t is 0, 1 or 2), -N(R^1)S(O)$_t$- (where t is 1 or 2), -S(O)$_2$N(R^1)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(S)N(R^1)-, -OS(O)$_2$N(R^1)-, -OC(O)N(R^1)-, -OC(S)N(R^1)-, -N(R^1)C(O)N(R^1)- or -N(R^1)C(S)N(R^1)-~~;

V is -C(O)-, ~~-C(S)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(S)N(R^1)-, -C(O)O-, -C(S)O-, -S(O)$_t$- (where t is 1 or 2), -S(O)$_t$N(R^1)- (where t is 1 or 2) or -C(R^{14})H~~;

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl,

C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl, and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is phenyl or naphthalene ~~selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;~~

~~or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;~~

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~ and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the mammal is a human.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3 wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of Type II diabetes, fatty liver, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, impaired glucose tolerance, insulin resistance, obesity, dyslipidemia, acne, and metabolic syndrome and any combination of these.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the disease or condition is Type II diabetes.

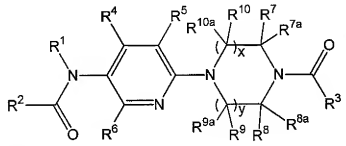
6. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the disease or condition is obesity.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the disease or condition is metabolic syndrome.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the disease or condition is fatty liver.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the disease or condition is non-alcoholic steatohepatitis.

10. (Withdrawn) A compound of formula (IIa):



(IIa)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1, ~~2 or 3~~;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_7-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_7-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_{13}-C_{19}aralkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl, provided that R^2 is not pyrazinyl, pyridinonyl, pyrrolidinonyl or imidazolyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~or R^9 and R^{9a} together, or R^{10} and R^{10a} together form an oxo group, while the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~

~~or one of R^7, R^{7a}, R^{10} and R^{10a}, together with one of R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a}, form an alkylene bridge, while the remaining R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~ and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

11. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 10 wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_7-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_7-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_{13}-C_{19}aralkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl, provided that R^2 is not pyrazinyl, pyridinonyl, pyrrolidinonyl or imidazolyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

12. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 11 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or C_1-C_{12}alkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_7-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_{13}-C_{19}aralkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

13. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 12 wherein:

R^2 is C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl.

14. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 13 wherein:

R^2 is C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl; and

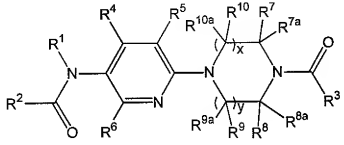
R^3 is C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl.

15. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 14, namely, Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [6-(4-cyclohexanecarbonyl-piperazin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl]amide.

16. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 10.

17. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 10.

18. (Withdrawn) A compound of formula (IIb):



(IIb)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, -$N(R^{12})_2$, -$OC(O)R^{12}$, -$C(O)OR^{12}$, -$S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl and heteroarylcycloalkyl, provided that R^3 is not phenyl substituted with optionally substituted thienyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or -$N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~or $R^9$and R^{9a} together, or R^{10} and R^{10a} together form an oxo group, while the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~

~~or one of R^7, R^{7a}, R^{10} and R^{10a}, together with one of R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a}, form an alkylene bridge, while the remaining R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, and R^{9a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~ and

each R^{12} is independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

19. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 18 wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, $-N(R^{12})_2$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)OR^{12}$, $-S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl and heteroarylcycloalkyl, provided that R^3 is not phenyl substituted with optionally substituted thienyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl, or

R^{10} and R^{10a} together form an oxo group and the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a} are each hydrogen;

each R^{12} is independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

20. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 19 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

R^1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_{12}alkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, $-N(R^{12})_2$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)OR^{12}$, $-S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl and heteroarylcycloalkyl, provided that R^3 is not phenyl substituted with optionally substituted thienyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each hydrogen; or

R^{10} and R^{10a} together form an oxo group and the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a} are each hydrogen; and

each R^{12} is independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl.

21. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 20 wherein:

R^2 is C_1-C_{12}alkyl; and

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

22. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 21 selected from the group consisting of the following:

4-Methylpentanoic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;

Hexanoic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;

Heptanoic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;

Heptanoic acid {6-[4-(2,5-dichlorobenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide; and
Hexanoic acid {6-[4-(2,5-dichlorobenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide.

23. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 20 wherein:

R^2 is C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl; and

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

24. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, namely, Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide.

25. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 20 wherein:

R^2 is C_7-C_{12}aralkyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy; and

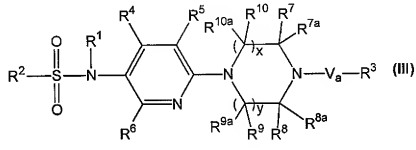
R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

26. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 25 selected from the group consisting of the following:
3-Phenyl-*N*-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}propionamide;
4-Phenyl-*N*-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}butyramide; and
N-{6-[2-Oxo-4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}-4-phenylbutyramide.

27. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 18.

28. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 18.

29. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

V_a is -C(O)-, -C(S)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(S)N(R^1)-, -C(O)O-, -C(S)O-, -S(O)$_t$-(where t is 1 or 2) or -S(O)$_t$N(R^1)- (where t is 1 or 2);

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or -N(R^{13})$_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~or R^7 and R^{7a} together, or R^8 and R^{8a} together, or R^9 and R^{9a} together, or R^{10} and~~

~~R^{10a} together are an oxo group, provided that when V_a is -C(O)-, R^7 and R^{7a} together or R^8 and R^{8a} together do not form an oxo group, while the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~

~~or one of R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, and R^{7a} together with one of R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a} form an alkylene bridge, while the remaining R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, and R^{9a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~ and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

30. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 29 wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

V_a is -C(O)- or -C(S)-;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

31. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 30 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

V_a is -C(O)-;

R^1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_{12}alkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is naphthyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, $-N(R^{12})_2$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)OR^{12}$, $-S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl and heteroarylcycloalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each hydrogen; and

each R^{12} is independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl.

32. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 31 wherein:

R^2 is C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_7-C_{12}aralkyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy;

R^3 is naphthyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

33. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 32 selected from the group consisting of the following:

Pentane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Butane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Hexane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Pentane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2-bromobenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Hexane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2,5-dichlorobenzoyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Pentane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2,5-dichlorobenzoyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Hexane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(naphthalene-1-carbonyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide;
Pentane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(naphthalene-1-carbonyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide; and
3-Phenylpropane-1-sulfonic acid {6-[4-(2-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}amide.

34. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 31 wherein:

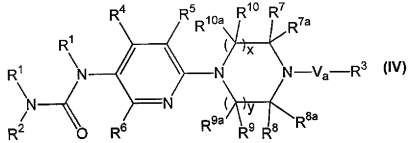
R^2 is C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl or C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is naphthyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

35. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 29.

36. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 29.

37. (Currently Amended) The compound of formula (IV):



(IV)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1;

V_a is ~~-C(O)-, -C(S)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(S)N(R^1)-, -C(O)O-, -C(S)O-, -S(O)$_t$- (where t is 1 or 2) or -S(O)$_t$N(R^1)- (where t is 1 or 2)~~;

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is phenyl or naphthalene ~~selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl~~;

~~or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;~~

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

38. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 37 wherein:

x and y are each independently 1;

V_a is $-C(O)$, ~~$-C(S)$, $-C(O)N(R^4)$, $-C(S)N(R^4)$, $-C(O)O$, $-S(O)_t$ (where t is 1 or 2) or $-S(O)_tN(R^4)$ (where t is 1 or 2)~~;

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl or naphthalene ~~selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl~~;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

39. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 38 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

V_4 is -C(O)-;

each R^1 is independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl or naphthalene ~~selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl~~;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each hydrogen; and

each R^{12} is independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl.

40. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 39 wherein:

R^2 is C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_7-C_{12}aralkyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy; and

R^3 is phenyl or naphthalene ~~selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, aryl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl or C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl~~.

41. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 40 wherein R^3 is C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl.

42. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 41 selected from the group consisting of the following:
1-[6-(4-Cyclohexanecarbonylpiperazin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl]-3-pentylurea; and
1-[6-(4-Cyclopentanecarbonylpiperazin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl]-3-pentylurea.

43. (Original) The compound of Claim 40 wherein R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

44. (Original) The compound of Claim 43 selected from the group consisting of the following:
1-Pentyl-3-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}urea;
1-Butyl-3-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}urea;
1-Phenethyl-3-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}urea;
1-Benzyl-3-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}urea; and
1-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-3-{6-[4-(2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)-piperazin-1-yl]pyridin-3-yl}urea.

45. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 40 wherein R^3 is piperidinyl optionally substituted by C_1-C_6alkyl or C_7-C_{12}aralkyl, wherein the C_7-C_{12}aralkyl group is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy.

46. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 45, namely, 1-{6-[4-(1-Benzylpiperidine-4-carbonyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}-3-pentylurea.

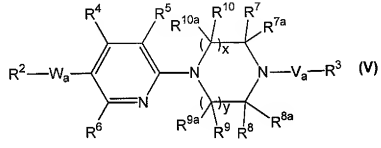
47. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 40 wherein R^3 is pyridinyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo or C_1-C_6alkyl.

48. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 47 selected from the group consisting of the following:
1-Pentyl-3-{6-[4-(pyridine-2-carbonyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}urea; and
1-Pentyl-3-{6-[4-(pyridine-4-carbonyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridin-3-yl}urea.

49. (Original) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 37.

50. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 37.

51. (Withdrawn) The compound of formula (V):



wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

W_a is -O-, -N(R^1)- or -S(O)$_t$- (where t is 0, 1 or 2);

V_a is -C(O)-, -C(S)-, -C(O)N(R^1)-, -C(S)N(R^1)-, -C(O)O-, -C(S)O-, -S(O)$_t$-(where t is 1 or 2) or -S(O)$_t$N(R^1)- (where t is 1 or 2);

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{16}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl,

C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~or R^7 and R^{7a} together, or R^8 and R^{8a} together, or R^9 and R^{9a} together, or R^{10} and R^{10a} together are an oxo group, provided that when V_a is -C(O)-, R^7 and R^{7a} together or R^8 and R^{8a} together do not form an oxo group, while the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~

~~or one of R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, and R^{7a} together with one of R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a} form an alkylene bridge, while the remaining R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, and R^{9a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~ and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

52. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 51 wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

W_a is -O-, $-N(R^1)$- or $-S(O)_t$- (where t is 0, 1 or 2);

V_a is -C(O)-, -C(S)-, $-C(O)N(R^1)$-, $-C(S)N(R^1)$-, -C(O)O-, $-S(O)_t$-(where t is 1 or 2) or $-S(O)_tN(R^1)$- (where t is 1 or 2);

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{16}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{16}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl,

C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or -N(R^{13})$_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

53. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 52 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

W_a is -O-;

V_a is -C(O)- or -C(S)-;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each hydrogen.

54. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 53 wherein:

V_a is -C(O)-;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl; and

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl.

55. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 52 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

W_a is $-N(R^1)-$;

V_a is -C(O)- or -C(S)-;

R^1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each hydrogen.

56. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 55 wherein:

V_a is -C(O)-;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl; and

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl.

57. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 52 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

W_a is $-S(O)_t-$ (where t is 0, 1 or 2);

V_a is -C(O)- or -C(S)-;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_3-C_{12}alkoxy, C_3-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each hydrogen.

58. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 57 wherein:

V_a is -C(O)-;

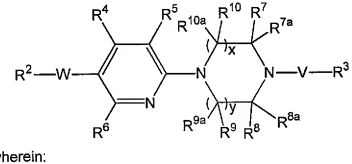
R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12} heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl; and

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12} heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl.

59. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 51.

60. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 51.

61. (Withdrawn) A compound of formula (Ia):



(Ia)

wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

W is $-N(R^1)S(O)_t-$ (where t is 1 or 2);

V is -C(O)-, -C(S)-, $-C(O)N(R^1)-$, $-C(S)N(R^1)-$, -C(O)O-, -C(S)O-, $-S(O)_t-$(where t is 1 or 2), $-S(O)_tN(R^1)-$ (where t is 1 or 2) or $-C(R^{11})H$;

each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl, and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^2 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

or R^3 is a multi-ring structure having 2 to 4 rings wherein the rings are independently selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl and where some or all of the rings may be fused to each other;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;

~~or R^7 and R^{7a} together, or $R^8$and R^{8a} together, or $R^9$and R^{9a} together, or R^{10} and R^{10a} together are an oxo group, provided that when V is -C(O)-, $R^7$and R^{7a} together or R^8 and R^{8a} together do not form an oxo group, while the remaining R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~

~~or one of R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, and R^{7a} together with one of R^8, R^{8a}, R^9 and R^{9a} form an alkylene bridge, while the remaining R^{10}, R^{10a}, R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, and R^{9a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl;~~

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl;

a stereoisomer, enantiomer or tautomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable

salt thereof, a pharmaceutical composition thereof or a prodrug thereof.

62. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 61 wherein:

x and y are each independently 1~~, 2 or 3~~;

V is -C(O)- or -C(S)-;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl and C_7-C_{19}aralkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl, and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkenyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}alkoxyalkyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl, C_1-C_{12}heteroaryl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or -$N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

63. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 62 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

V is -C(O)-;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl, C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl and C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is aryl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, -$N(R^{12})_2$, -$OC(O)R^{12}$, -$C(O)OR^{12}$, -$S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl and heteroarylcycloalkyl;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro, chloro, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro or $-N(R^{13})_2$;

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_3alkyl; and

each R^{13} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl.

64. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 63 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

V is -C(O)-;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^2 is C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_2-C_{12}alkenyl;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, $-N(R^{12})_2$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)OR^{12}$ and $-S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro or chloro; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each hydrogen.

65. (Withdrawn) The compoundof Claim 63 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

V is -C(O)-;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^2 is C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, $-N(R^{12})_2$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)OR^{12}$ and $-S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro or chloro; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10} and R^{10a} are each hydrogen.

66. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 65 wherein:

R^2 is C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl and C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy;

R^4 and R^6 are both hydrogen; and

R^5 is hydrogen or bromo.

67. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 66 selected from the group consisting of the following:

5-Bromo-6-[4-(5-fluoro-2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-pyridine-3-sulfonic acid (2-cyclopropylethyl)amide; and

6-[4-(5-fluoro-2-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyridine-3-sulfonic acid (2-cyclopropylethyl)amide.

68. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 63 wherein:

x and y are each 1;

V is -C(O)-;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl or C_4-C_{12}cycloalkylalkyl;

R^2 is C_7-C_{19}aralkyl, C_3-C_{12}heterocyclylalkyl or C_3-C_{12}heteroarylalkyl;

R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkyl, C_1-C_6trihaloalkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl, $-N(R^{12})_2$, $-OC(O)R^{12}$, $-C(O)OR^{12}$ and $-S(O)_2N(R^{12})_2$;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, bromo, fluoro or chloro; and

R^7, R^{7a}, R^8, R^{8a}, R^9, R^{9a}, R^{10}, and R^{10a} are each hydrogen.

69. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease or condition mediated by stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) in a mammal, wherein the method comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 61.

70. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 61.